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Philip [GB/GB]; Unilever R & D Port Sunlight, Quarry
Road East, Bebington, Wirral, Merseyside CH63 3JW
(GB).

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(74) Agents: **ELLIOTT, Peter, William** et al.; Unilever PLC,
Patent Department, Colworth House, Sharnbrook, Bedford,
Bedfordshire MK44 1LQ (GB).

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(71) Applicant (*for AE, AG, AU, BB, BZ, CA, CY, GB, GD,
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UNILEVER PLC [GB/GB]; Unilever House, Blackfriars,
London EC4P 4BQ (GB).

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(71) Applicant (*for AL, AM, AT, AZ, BA, BE, BF, BG, BJ, BR,
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455, NL-3013 AL Rotterdam (NL).

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(71) Applicant (*for IN only*): **HINDUSTAN LEVER LIM-
ITED** [IN/IN]; Hindustan Lever House, 165/166 Backbay
Reclamation, Maharashtra, 400 020 Mumbai (IN).

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(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (*for US only*): **PARKER, Andrew**,

(54) Title: AZETIDINIUM-FUNCTIONALISED POLYMERS AND COMPOSITIONS CONTAINING THE SAME

(57) Abstract: The invention provides a biodegradable azetidinium-functional polyester. This is useful for treating a substrate such as a cellulosic or keratinaceous textile material, preferably in the presence of a carrier. The polymer can be prepared by: a) reacting an amine-containing (di)acid or (di)ol with a suitable co-reactant, and, b) treating the product of step (a) with an epihalohydrin. Preferably step (a) occurs in the presence of a catalyst selected from the group comprising sulphuric acid, p-toluenesulphonic acid and a hafnium(IV) compound. The preferred diacid are iminodiacarboxylic acids in which each carboxylic acid moiety has a carbon number of 2-4. The preferred diols are polyalkylene glycols in which the repeat unit has a carbon number of 2-3.

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